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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/679,819	10/06/2003	Robert R. O'Brien	50037.200US01	3404
27488	7590	05/29/2007		
MERCHANT & GOULD (MICROSOFT)			EXAMINER	
P.O. BOX 2903			DAILEY, THOMAS J	
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903				
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2152	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			05/29/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Interview Summary

**Application No.**

10/679,819

**Applicant(s)**

O'BRIEN ET AL.

**Examiner**

Thomas J. Dailey

**Art Unit**

2152

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Thomas J. Dailey.

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Ryan T. Grace.

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interview: 22 May 2007.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference  
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.

If Yes, brief description: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim(s) discussed: 1.

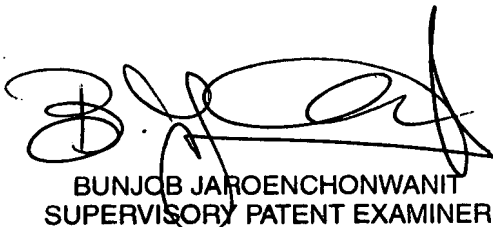
Identification of prior art discussed: Porter et al (US Pat. 6,181,781) and Reding et al (US Pub. 2004/0264654).

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☒ N/A.

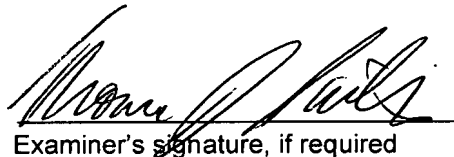
Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Discussed proposed amendment. Examiner's initial opinion was that the amendment overcame Porter and most likely Reding and a new search would be required.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

  
BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

  
Examiner's signature, if required

## Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

### Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

#### Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

##### Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

##### 37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,  
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

#### Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

## Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form

Application No.: 10/679,819

First Named Applicant: O'Brien

Examiner: Dailey

Art Unit: 2152

Status of Application: Pending

**Tentative Participants:**

(1) Examiner Dailey

(2)

(3) Ryan Grace

(4)

**Proposed Date of Interview:** Please call      **Proposed Time:** Please call**Type of Interview Requested:**(1) ☒ Telephonic      (2) ☐ Personal      (3) ☐ Video Conference**Exhibit To Be Shown or Demonstrated:** ☐ Yes      ☐ No

If yes, provide brief description:

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**Issues To Be Discussed**

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(1) 103 Rejection

(2)

☐ Continuation Sheet Attached

As background and not for limiting the claims in any manner, the specification recites an example as follows:

Notification server 304 provides a link between the identifier associated with the event and the PUID associated with the subscriber. The telephone carrier uses the identifier, such as the subscriber's phone number, to identify an event. Notification server 304 uses the PUID to identify the subscriber. Notification server 304 is not aware of the subscriber associated with the identifier. When an event occurs at voice mail switch 308, notification server 304 correlates the identifier associated with the event to the corresponding PUID and then forwards the event to the PUID. Likewise, the telephone carrier does not store any PUID information. Thus, notification server 304 can bridge voice mail switch 308 to web service interface 302 by mapping the subscriber's telephone number to the corresponding PUID.

The telephone carrier and web service interface 302 each recognize the subscriber via different string values, i.e., a phone number and a PUID. This feature provides the subscriber with flexibility in customizing the alerts service because notification server 304 can map one or more phone numbers to one or more PUIDs. For example, the subscriber can receive

alerts at one location for events occurring at many different voice mail switches. Likewise, a subscriber can receive the same alert at more than one location. Furthermore, multiple subscribers can be notified of the same event. For example, an entire family can be simultaneously notified of voice mail messages left at their residential line. *Specification*, at pg. 7, line 20 – pg. 8, line 9.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the following combination of features that are not taught or otherwise suggested by the cited references:

a plurality of voice mail switches, wherein each voice mail switch is configured to receive an event and an identifier associated with the event; and

a notification server, coupled to the plurality of voice mail switches, that is configured to perform actions including:

obtaining a personal unique identifier (PUID) that identifies a subscriber registered with the notification server and maps to a plurality of identifiers, wherein at least one of the plurality of identifiers is associated with a different voice mail switch than the other of the plurality of identifiers;

receiving an event and an identifier from at least one of the plurality of voice mail switches;

correlating the identifier associated with the event with the PUID that identifies the subscriber registered with the notification server;

generating an alert; and

sending the alert to the subscriber indicating that the event occurred.

Applicants assert that Porter does not teach the above combination of features. The Office Action states that "Porter's 'mailbox number' reads on the PUID." *Office Action*, at pg. 4. Porter teaches a system for remotely accessing a mailbox by the Internet. The user enters a URL of the voicemail system and the server associated with the URL sends a HTML file to the user as shown in FIGURE 4. The user then enters a mailbox number to access the mailbox. When the user wants to access another mailbox associated with a different phone, the user must start the process over. Porter does not teach receiving message access and alerts from several message stores. In the system of Porter the user must access each store independently. The PUID recited in the claim is not the same as the mailbox number of Porter. Claim 1 specifically recites "obtaining a personal unique identifier (PUID) that identifies a subscriber registered with the notification server and maps to a plurality of identifiers, wherein at least one of the plurality of identifiers is associated with a different voice mail switch than the other of the plurality of identifiers." For example, a first identifier might be associated with a home phone and a second identifier might be associated with a cell phone. Applicants

can find no teaching in Porter of a PUID that identifies the subscriber and several identifiers. Applicants assert that the other cited references do not remedy the lack of teaching in Porter. Accordingly, applicants assert that claim 1 is allowable over the references.

An interview was conducted on the above-identified application on 5/22. NOTE: This form should be completed by applicant and submitted to the examiner in advance of the interview (see MPEP § 713.01).

← This application will not be delayed from issue because of applicant's failure to submit a written record of this interview. Therefore, applicant is advised to file a statement of the substance of this interview (37 CFR 1.135(b)) as soon as possible.

[Signature] 5/16/07  
Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature

[Signature]  
Examiner/SPE Signature

Ryan T. Grace  
Typed/Printed Name of Applicant or Representative

52,956  
Registration Number, if applicable